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The University of Montana

NEWS RELEASE

Office of News and Publications
Missoula, MT 59812
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April 15, 1992

UM JOURNALISM STUDENTS WIN REGIONAL AWARDS

MISSOULA --

Six University of Montana student journalists and a UM student documentary team won awards in the recent Society of Professional Journalists regional competition.

The awards, including six first-place honors for UM students, were announced April 4 at the SPJ Region 10 conference in Kennewick, Wash. The competition was open to college students from Montana, Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Alaska. First-place winners will advance to national competition.

Tom Walsh, a graduate student from Boston, Mass., won first-place honors in the editorial writing category for his work in UM's student newspaper, the Montana Kaimin.

Woody Kipp of Missoula won first place for column writing for his Kaimin columns. Kipp graduated last year and now works as an adviser/counselor in UM's Native American Studies Program. Both Walsh and Kipp submitted three examples of their opinion writing for the contest.

Kathy McLaughlin's Kaimin story about the staff strike at UM last spring won a first-place award for spot news reporting. McLaughlin, a junior, hails from Butte.

Seniors Kim Walden of Missoula and David Sirak of Hookset, N.H., won the top prize for best television feature for a story about football in cold weather. And the student documentary unit's reports on the negative impacts of tourism in Montana drew a first-place award for in-depth television reporting.

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Jay Schweitzer, a sophomore from Anchorage, Alaska, placed third in spot news photography for his photo capturing the anguish of two students as they learned that U.S. bombing of Iraq had begun.

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